



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

SHEHRI

CITIZENS FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

JANUARY - JUNE 2021

CONVERSION OF PRIME AGRICULTURE LAND IN SINDH

Amber Ali bhai & Hawwa Fazal

Sindh is the second largest province of Pakistan in respect of its contribution to the overall agricultural production. It produces wheat, cotton, rice, sugarcane, fruits and vegetables. Along with these, chilies, onions, dates, are the key crops of this province.

However, all this is under threat firstly due to the exponential population growth for which 2% housing is needed annually all over Pakistan. This unrestrained growth of population has impacted Sindh as well, in the last six decades Sindh Urban population has increased by 22% according to the 2017 census. The big cities are growing without any planning and straining the fragile infrastructure. To accommodate this unplanned migration, the informal and formal players in the housing sectors are taking advantage and converting prime agriculture land for housing and this is taking place unnoticed and quietly as there is no clear



MIRPURKHAS

government policy of will against conversion of agricultural land.

Riaz Ahmed Dayo, Director, Agriculture Extension at Agriculture Department, Government of Sindh said, "Currently, the land transfer system in Rural Sindh is a tedious process because it is manual. We are in the process of digitizing this data so that we can keep an eye on the change of land status and

misuse of land laws. However, the work has been going on for

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SHEHRI-CBE

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three years and is nowhere near completion. There are certain political motives because of which hurdles are being created at each step."

The absence of data and the ongoing conversion means that no-one knows which part of deh land (cultivable) and how much of rural land is being converted into commercial land.

In Sindh 'Deh' is merely a unit of territorial jurisdiction of land bureaucracy, the land within a deh is divided into two main parts - cultivable and non-cultivable.

To boost the agriculture sector of Sindh, the Sindh Agriculture Policy was conceptualized in 2016, notified in 2018, it was planned till 2030, the key policies were supposed to be made within two years, however to-date no policy has materialized.

Clause 2.4.1 of the policy states that "simplify the procedure for land use, land transfer and lease for establishment of rural enterprises". Ironically there is NO mention about discontinuing the practice of change of land use/agriculture land into commercial land which will soon turn to be a leading cause of decline of Agriculture sector, as it has in Punjab.

Approximately 16,800 acres of

agricultural land in Hyderabad has been urbanized, according to a study by Moula Bux Peerzado, Habibullah Magsai and Muhammad Javed Sheikh, 'Land use conflicts and Urban Sprawl, 2019.

Shehri- CBE has also being following the rapidly escalating phenomena of change of land use.

To determine the severity of the problem Shehri - CBE has traced down all public notice from 2019 to 2021, in a local English newspaper, for change of land use. The sum area in public notice is 1000 acres approximately. How much agricultural land has been taken surreptitiously is a question yet to be answered.

"The agricultural land is no more fertile; it doesn't give us the output as it used to 20-25 years back. The most that can be earned by selling a crop is 30,000-40,000 Rs per acre, annually." says Shehryar Khan Mahar, Landowner, Member Sindh Assembly.

The ever-increasing prices of agriculture inputs even after being subsidized are out of farmers reach. To cultivate the farmers often end up taking informal loans, the lenders then force the small farmers to sell their yield at a lesser price than that of allotted price - often leaving the farmer with little to no profit.

"Since the land prices have risen to 10 -20 million per acre, farmers and landowners big or small are motivated to sell their land", Mahar explained.

He said all the schemes that are introduced by the government, to help make agriculture feasible are allotted on political basis because of the 18th Amendment, the opposition areas are mostly ignored.

Water is a tool used to squeeze the opposition landlords which in turn effects the small farmers who get no water. Alas, the only solution left for them is to sell their land to the developers who offer them 'good money' for their land.

Dysfunctional Government Policies

Despite the depleting food insufficiency in Sindh, the government seems be to least concerned in solving the issue" says Amber Alibhai, General Secretary Shehri-CBE.

"Rather, they're expediting these conversions. The manifestation of that is the Sindh cabinet's wish to expand the developer centric law 'Sindh High Density Development Board Act, 2010' to the entire province - by notifying high density zones in urban cities of Sindh which lack basic infrastructure, and making conversion attractive

Districts of Sindh



and profitable."

Talking about the current problems within the land conversion law, Dr Noman Ahmed, Dean Faculty of Architecture and Management Sciences (AMS) said;

"Land conversion law is a provincial law and the powers to change status of land use vest with the Local Government. The local government can also exercise this particular prerogative through development authorities that it has

positioned. The possibility to challenge the authority is very weak for e.g., LDA, MDA have converted large swathes of agriculture land around rural Karachi."

Unless, immediate notice is not taken, the basic food basket will become more expensive, the carbon footprint to transport basic agricultural produce will increase, making the food basket even more costly and the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of country will be severely deteriorated.

AGRICULTURAL LAND LOST

MIRPURKHAS	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
Plot Nos. 05 to 09 & 11 to 14, Areeba Town Housing Scheme, Deh Mubrak Taluka Shujaabad, District Mirpur Khas.	30/04/2021	Major Crop: Wheat, Sugarcane
Plot City Survey No.375, situated at Ward-C, Taluka Jhuddo, District Mirpur Khas	02/04/2021	
R.S. Nos.165 & 266, , situated at Deh Mubarak, Taluka Shujaabad, District Mirpur Khas	02/04/2021	
R.S. No.117/3, Deh 185, Tapo Abring, Taluka Digri, District Mirpurkhas	10/03/2021	Minor Crop: Onion, Spinach, Lady's Fingers, Tomatoes, Jantar
Plot over Plot No.1 to 7, Golden Town Housing Scheme, Deh 178, Taluka Digri, District Mirpurkhas	15/01/2020	
R.S. No.292/9 (Part) 10 (Part), Deh 290-A, Taluka Kot Ghulam Muhammad, District Mirpurkhas	05/01/2020	
R.S. No. 48, situated at Deh 110, Taluka Hussain Bux Mari, District Mirpurkhas	26/10/2019	Forest Cover: 62.4 ha (Global Forest Watch)
R.S. No. 621/256/2,3,7,8 (Part), 9,10,11,15,16, Deh 178, Taluka Dighri, district Mirpurkhas	12/10/2019	
R.S. No. 56/2,3,7,8 (Part), 9,10,11,15,16, Deh 178, Taluka Dighri, district Mirpurkhas	15/10/2019	
RS No.66, Deh 145, Taluka Shujaabad, District Mirpurkhas	29/07/2019	Mills: Sugar, Cotton, Edible oil
R.S. No.115 (Part), Deh 108, Taluka Hussain Bux Marti, District Mirpurkhas	25/07/2019	
R.S. No.117/2, Deh 107-A, Taluka Shujabad, District Mirpurkhas	25/07/2019	

KHAIRPUR	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
R.S. No.933 & 934, Deh, Taluka & District Khairpur	01/04/2021	Main Crop: cotton, dates and sugarcane
R.S. Nos.372, 373, 756, Deh Gujo, Tapo Luqman, Taluka & District Khairpur Mirs	14/11/2020	
R.S. No.190, 191, 196, 197, 198 & 199, Deh Bhurgari, Taluka & District Khairpur Mirs	13/02/2020	Minor crop: cotton, oil seeds Fruit orchids: dates, banana, mangoes, guavas, orange, and lemon Cultivable: 256,000 hectares (16%)

DADU	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
City Survey Nos.625/3 A, Ward-A, Fish Market, Talukar and District Dadu	31/03/2021	Major crop: Wheat, cotton, rice, sugarcane Minor crop: Barely, jowar, gram and mustard
R.S. No.28, 36, 436, 440, 441, 442 & others, Deh Pipri, Taluka & District Dadu	16/02/2021	

SUKKUR	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
R.S. No.263, Deh Abad Jagir, Tapo Old Sukkur, Taluka New Sukkur, District Sukkur	27/03/2021	Major Crop: Dates, cotton, rice, jowar and sugarcane Minor crops: Wheat, gram and oil seeds Cultivated land: 153,000 hectares
R.S. No.263, Deh Abad Jagir, Tapo Old Sukkur, Taluka New Sukkur, District Sukkur	27/03/2021	
No.260/6, Abed Lakha Deh Abad Jagir, Tapa Old Sukkur, Taluka New Sukkur, District Sukkur	20/03/2021	
R.S. No.45 (Part), Deh Arain, Taluka New Sukkur, District Sukkur	10/03/2021	
R.S. No.456 (Part), Deh, Tapo & Taluka Pano Aqil, District Sukkur	22/01/2021	
R.S. No.687, Deh Chak No.5, Tapo & Taluka Salehpat, District Sukkur	22/01/2021	
R.S. No.232, Deh & Tapo Arain, Taluka New Sukkur, District Sukkur	24/12/2020	
Residential Plot over bearing Plot Nos. A-05, Gulshan-e-Rehmat Housing Scheme, Deh & Tapo Arain, Taluka New Sukkur, District Sukkur	12/12/2020	
R.S. Nos.184/1, 185, 187, 188 & 189, Deh, Dhea, Taluka New Sukkur, District Sukkur	29/11/2020	
R.S. Nos.205, 206/1, 2 & 212/1, Deh, Dhea, Taluka New Sukkur, District Sukkur	29/11/2020	
R.S. No.120,429,767,874 & 875, Deh Sonan, Taluka Ubaro, District Ghotki Sukkur	27/10/2020	
R.S. No.09 (Part) & 112 (Part), Deh Porath, Taluka Rohri, District Sukkur	16/09/2020	
R.S. No.456 (Part), Deh, Tapo and Taluka Pano Aqil, District Sukkur	19/01/2020	
Commercial Plots over Plot Nos.SA-23, SA-24, New Sukkur City Housing Scheme, Deh Naseerabad, Taluka New Sukkur, District Sukkur	17/01/2020	
R.S. No.687, Deh Chak No.5, Tapo & Taluka Salehpat, District Sukkur	19/01/2020	
THATTA	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
R.S. No.66, Deh & Tapo Gharo, Taluka Mirpur Sakro, District Thatta	19/02/2021	Major crop: Wheat, rice and sugarcane. Minor crop: castor, oil seeds
R.S. No.40/3, Deh Kalankot Rayati, Taluka & District Thatta	19/02/2021	
R.S. No.477/1 to 4, 535/1 to 4, 534/1 to 4 & others, Deh Bhanero & Ghairabad No.3 Tapo Gharo & Babra, Taluka Mirpur Sakro & District Thatta	09/01/2021	
Land measuring area 20 Acres, situated at Deh Kohistan 7/1, Taluka & District Thatta	25/01/2020	
Block Survey No. 549/2, Deh Khari Ser Taluka Mirpur Sakro, District Thatta	01/11/2019	
Land measuring area 04 Acres, situated at Deh Gharo, Taluka Mirpur Sakro, District Thatta	25/07/2019	
R.S. No.238 & 239, Deh Shekhani, Taluka & District Thatta	25/07/2019	
R.S. No. 03/1, Deh Pir Jharyoon, Taluka Mirpur Sakro, District Thatta	14/11/2020	
R.S. No.553/1, to 4, 552/2,3,4 Deh Khari Ser, Taulka Mirpur Sakro, District Thatta	25/01/2020	

SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
Residential Plots Nos.01,02,03,04,05,2, Major (Ret) Muhammad Afzal Town Housing Scheme Phase-1, Deh 50-Dad, Taluka Nawabshah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	20/03/2021	Major Crop: Maize, rice, sugarcane, cotton and bajra Minor crop: Wheat, barley, Gram and barseen Cultivable land: 244,000 hectares (53%)
R.S. Nos.139 & 143, Deh 50 Dad, Taluka Nawabshah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	17/02/2021	
R.S. No.05, Deh 18 Sakrand, Taluka Sakrand, District Shaheed Benazirabad	22/01/2021	
R.S. No.135/1 (Part) & 135/2 (Part), Deh 87/A Nusrat, Taluka Nawab Shah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	24/12/2020	
R.S. No.133/2 & 2-a (Part), Deh 87/A Nusrat, Taluka Nawab Shah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	24/12/2020	
Land Over R.S. No.133/1, measuring area 04 Acres, situated at Deh 87/A Nusrat, Taluka Nawab Shah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	24/12/2020	
R.S. No.133/2 & 2-a (Part), Deh 87/A Nusrat, Taluka Nawab Shah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	24/12/2020	
R.S. No.537/2,4, 541/1, Deh Kundah Nandho, Taluka Qazi Ahmed, District Shaheed Benazirabad	12/12/2020	
R.S. No.83/3 (Part), Deh 25-Dad, Taluka Nawabshah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	01/11/2020	
R.S. No.115 & 116, Deh 42 Dad, Taluka Nawabshah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	14/02/2020	
R.S. No.100/1 (Portion), 100/2 (Portion), 101/1A, 101/B (Portion), 101/C (Portion), Deh 86 Nasrat, Taluka Nawabshah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	11/02/2020	
R.S. No.100/1 (Portion), 100/2 (Portion), 101/1B (Portion), 101/C (Portion), Deh 86 Nasrat, Taluka Nawabshah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	11/02/2020	
R.S. No.101/4 A to D & 101/5, Deh 86 Nasrat, Taluka Nawabshah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	11/02/2020	
R.S. No.100/3, measuring area 04 Acres, situated at Deh 86 Nasrat, Taluka Nawabshah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	11/02/2020	
R.S. No.05, measuring area 02 Ghuntas, situated at Deh 18 Sakrand, Taluka Sakrand, District Shaheed Benazirabad	22/02/2020	
R.S. No.70/1 to 4, Deh, 44 Dad, Taluka Nawabshah, District Shaheed Benazirabad	11/07/2019	
Land over R.S. No. 81/2,3,4, Deh 87-A Nusrat, Taluka Nawabshah, District Benazirabad	27/11/2019	

HYDERABAD	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
R.S. No.513/4, 514/4, Deh Miano, Tapo, Taluka & District Hyderabad	19/01/2021	Major Crop: cotton, rice and sugarcane
R.S. No.42,43 & 44, Deh Sukhpur, Taluka & District Hyderabad (Rural)	19/01/2020	
R.S. No. 137 (Part), Deh Narejani, Taluka and District Hyderabad	26/10/2019	Minor crop: wheat, gram and oil seeds
R.S. No. 07, Deh Checha Detha, Taluka & District Hyderabad (Rural)	14/11/2020	
R.S. Nos. (Part), 260, 640, 641, Deh Nara Jani, Tapo Tando Hyder, Taluka & District Hyderabad	12/10/2019	Cultivated land: 47,000 hectares (47%)
R.S. No. 136 (Part), situated at Deh Narajani, Taluka & District Hyderabad (Rural)	12/10/2019	

LARKANA	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
R.S. Nos.378 (Part), 379 (Part) & 380 (Part), Deh Nazar Thariri, Tapo Abra, Taluka & District Larkana	31/03/2021	Major Crop: rice, jowar sugarcane, rabi, wheat, gram and oil seeds Minor crop: Guava, lemon, mangoes & date Cultivated land: 64,000 hectares
R.S. Nos.72 Deh Bugti Balouch, Taluka & District Larkana	26/11/2020	
R.S. No.116,117,119/1, 119/2, 119/3, Deh Lund, Tapo Loungal, Tapo & District Larkana	04/11/2020	
R.S. No.120 to 123, 134 to 138 & 142, Deh Bhugti Balouch, Taluka & District Larkana	03/10/2020	
R.S. No.304 to 309, 311 to 314 & others, measuring a Deh & Tapo Baqapur, Taluka Bakrani, District Larkana	03/10/2020	
R.S. No.656 (Part), 657 (Part), 658 (Part), 659 (Part) & others, Deh Wah Nabi Bux, Tapo Abra, Taluka & District Larkana	23/09/2021	
R.S. No.242 (Part), 243 (Part), 244 (Part), Deh Chakar Ali, Tapo Bero Chandio, Taluka & District Larkana	23/09/2021	
R.S. No.332 (Part), 339 (Part), 150 (Part), 151 (Part), Deh Khedkar, Tapo Dodai, Taluka & District Larkana	23/09/2021	
R.S. No.17, 18,19 & 21 Deh Nazar Ali Tharani, Taluka & District Larkana	05/01/2020	
R.S. No.17, 18,19 & 20, Deh Nazar Ali Tharani, Taluka & District Larkana	03/01/2020	
R.S. No. 670 to 674 (Parts) Deh Wah Nabi Bux, Taluka & District Larkana	15/11/2019	
R.S. No. 308, 326, 497 (Part) 592 (Part) & 595 (Part), Deh Wah Nabi Bux, District Larkana	12/10/2019	
R.S. No. 326 (Part) & 595 (Part), measuring area 31.40 Ghuntas, situated at Deh Wah Nabi Bux, Taluka & District Larkana	12/10/2019	
R.S. No.215 & 212, Deh Nazar Thariri, Tapo Abra, Taluka & District Larkana	28/09/2019	
Land R.S. No.11 to 16, 27/1, 28, 29, 642 to 645, 647, 648 & other, measuring area 60-acre & 07 Ghuntas, situated at Deh Dhadhra, Tapo Baqapur, Taluka Baakrani, District Larkana	11/07/2019	
R.S. No. 497 (Part) & 592 (Part), Deh Wah Nabi Bux, Taluka & District Larkana	12/10/2019	

BADIN	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
R.S. Nos.294, Deh & Taluka Sujawal, District Badin	16/02/2021	Major Crop: Sugar Cane Cotton, Rice, Tomato Wheat, Sunflower Minor Crop: Onions, Chilies Pulses, Melons Mills: Sugar mills Forest Cover: 12000 hectares
R.S. No.56/1, Deh Khud, Taluka Shaheed Fazil Rahu, District Badin	16/02/2021	
R.S. No.39/4, Deh Khud, Taluka Shaheed Fazil Rahu, District Badin	16/02/2021	
R.S. Nos.42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 48 Deh Pathar, Taluka & District Badin	12/12/2020	
R.S. Nos.362, 363, 364, Deh Kerandhi, Taluka & District Badin	12/12/2020	
R.S. Nos.260, 261, 264, 265, 266 & 268, Deh Tapo, Taluka & District Badin	25/11/2020	
R.S. No.111/3 & 119/1, 4, Deh Kathor, Taluka Matli, District Badin	05/02/2020	
R.S. No.67/1, 67/1-A, 4,4A, 11/1-A (Part) Deh Kathor Taluka Matli, District Badin	22/01/2020	
R.S. No.126 (part), Deh Tapo, Taluka & District Badin	28/09/2019	
RS No.01 (Part) & 02 (part) Deh Bhitro, Taluka Talhar, District Badin	28/09/2019	
RS No.130/1 to 4, 145/1 to 4, 103/4, 103/3, Deh Sikni, Taluka Matli, District Badin	29/07/2019	

SANGHAR	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
R.S. No.8 & 10, Deh 6-A Dim, Tapo Raotiani, Taluka Sinjhor, District Sanghar	01/11/2020	Main Crop: cotton, rice, jowar and sugarcane Minor crop: wheat, gram and oil seeds Cultivated land: 153,000 hectares (31%)
R.S. No.04, 315, 316, 317 & out of R.S. Nos. 6,7,8 Deh 6-A Dim, Tapo Raotiani, Taluka Sinjhor, District Sanghar	01/11/2020	
R.S. No.301/1 (Portion), 302/1 (Portion) & others Deh Chimb, Taluka Shahdadpur, District Sanghar	08/02/2020	
R.S. No. 120 (Portion) & 121 (Portion), Deh Barachri Jageer, Taluka Shahdadpur, Sanghar	27/11/2019	
R.S. No. 884/1, 885/2 & 885/3, Deh & Taluka Shahdadpur, District Sanghar	27/11/2019	
R.S. No. 448 (Portion), 449 (Portion), 610 (Portion), Quboyaqaan, Taluka Shahdadpur, District Sanghar	15/11/2019	
R.S. No. 325/2 (Portion) & 326/2 (Portion), Deh Chimbh, Taluka Shahdadpur, District Sanghar	26/10/2019	
R.S. Nos. 330,690,692,699,700,771 & 772, Deh & Tapo Sanghar, Taluka & District Sangha	28/09/2019	
R.S. Nos.822/5 & 823/3, Deh & Taluka Shadadpur, District Sanghar	28/09/2019	

TANDO MAHUMMAD KHAN	Public Notice Date	Crops Lost
R.S. No.2 & 3, Deh Behrampur, Tapo Burli, Taluka Burli Shah Karim & District Tando Muhammad Khan	30/04/2021	Major Crop: sugarcane, rice Minor: Wheat and cotton
R.S. No.166/9 to 16 & 167/9 to 16, Deh Vesaki, Taluka & District Tando Muhammad Khan	03/10/2020	
R.S. No.228, Deh Chandio, Tapo Jummo Jakhero, Taluka Tando Ghulam Hyder, District Tando Muhammad Khan	03/10/2020	
R.S. No.17, Deh & Taluka & District Tando Muhammad Khan	15/01/2020	
R.S. No. 239/2,7 Deh Veesarki, Taluka & District Tando Mohammad Khan	27/11/2019	
RS No.50, Jiyan No.50, Deh Chandia, Tapo Juma Jakhro, Taluka Tando Ghulam Hyder, District Tando Muhammad Khan	28/09/2019	



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COMMITTEE TO DETERMINE THE CRITERIA FOR HIGH DENSITY AREAS IN THE PROVINCE OF SINDH

Shehri declines inclusion on 28/06/2021 through letter to Chief Minister, Chief Secretary, Secretary Local and others

Amber Ali Bhai



On June 24, 2021, the Local Government Department (GoS) formed a Committee vide

Notification No. SO(G)/HTP/SBCA/4-167/2016 to determine the criteria for High

Density areas in the Province of Sindh. The committee comprises of following members

1.	Mr. Khalid A.K. Chachar Special Secretary (HTP) Local Govt. HTP Department, Sindh	Convenor
2.	Mr. Mushtaq Ibrahim Soomro Director (Admn), SBCA	Secretary/Member
3.	The Chairman, ABAD	Member
4.	The Chairman Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planner	Member
5.	M/s. Shehri-CBE	Member
6.	Mr. Akhtar Ali Director Sindh Master Plan Authority	Member
7.	Any other co-opted Member(s) as and when needed	

TOR's of the Committee:

- "The Committee shall determine and suggest the criteria for declaration of High Density areas in the Province and submit suggestion within seven (07) days."

Shehri after deliberations within Board members, Architects, Town Planners and Civil Society, withdrew from the Committee and did not attend the 1st meeting held on 28th June 2021 and reasons are as follows;

- In the year 2008, KBCA invited prominent architects to form a committee to assist and guide the authority to achieving the objectives in enhancement of development opportunity and participation in a healthy growth of the construction

activity of the city.

- The committee highlighted the importance of institutionalization by recommending the creation of an oversight committee and creation of Moratorium Zones as well as a Supra planning and development authority to coordinate control and more importantly direct the planning and development of Karachi and the province.
- However, the Sindh Assembly passed the Sindh High Density Development Board 2010 on May 31, 2010 with the preamble "Whereas it is expedient to provide for creation of the High Density Development Board Act 2010 to ensure coordinated and integrated

development of high density zones in the urban centres of the province and to provide for matters connected therewith". The Board Constituted 8 members, and did not represent any professional body, independent planners or civil society. In the 2013 amendment, the governor was dropped as a member of the board and there has been no further amendment. Although the office bearers # 5 and 6 do not exist. Despite this lack of quorum, individual plots falling in the notified areas are being converted behind closed doors eg. Saddar Hoshang Road, Clifton, Civil Lines to name a few projects.

- ♦ The Sindh High Density Development Board Act was/is not in the best interest of Karachi and the other cities of Sindh.
- ♦ The Sindh High Density Development Board serves no purpose but to facilitate and further the real estate interests of select parties and single plots in Clifton, Civil Lines and several other projects have taken advantage and benefitted by this discriminatory Act at the expense of the city.
- ♦ Its concentrates too much discretionary power without oversight in the hands of a few selected individuals.
- ♦ It does not address the large-scale planning problems of Karachi. Rather it has and will create further concentrations of severe urban congestion.
- ♦ It excludes the planning, architectural and civil society communities.
- ♦ The eleven (11) areas need to be denotified and Mai Kolachi Expressway is off the list since Supreme Court ruled the reclamation and proposed development is illegal and order it to be restored to its original conditions.
- ♦ It does not address the needs of the vast majority of the citizens of Karachi and neither will it do that for the citizens of Sindh. It will encroach and destroy prime agricultural land.

Points to Ponder

- ♦ In the last 10 years, the 11 areas listed for High Density have not witnessed any upgradation to their

infrastructure nor have any urban design being undertaken to improve the areas in question.

- ♦ Why is there a special legislation to constitute a board to address the need for a single type of a building. There are no similar boards looking at the other building type like schools and health type facility. The High Density Development Board was constituted to facilitate the real estate interest of builders and investors of single plots only.
- ♦ In the last two (02) years, many areas of Karachi have witnessed callus displacement, however this displacement will be nothing compared to the disaster which will unfold if Machar Colony, Shireen Jinnah Colony, Sultanabad and Railway Marshaling yards are opened up for high-rise development.
- ♦ We need to recognize that the intent of this legislation/act is based upon incompetence, short sightedness and avarice, as this act does not cater to the majority of the population and is absolutely unconcerned about the deteriorating environment of climate change and its effects.

What should be done

- Repeal the Sindh High Density Act 2010 immediately and open up an inclusive debate on determining the viable planning parameters for growth and increased

densification of the city. Recommendations coming out of this stakeholder consultation process be incorporated in the proposed Karachi Master Plan 2047, In terms of policy, planning and institutional requirements.

- Have a detailed assessment on the social, environmental and economic impact of the Commercialization of Road Policy 2004, which should act as a guiding document on avoiding policy mistakes of the past.
- A comprehensive status report/situation analysis study for determining the present state of civic services and critical urban infrastructure in Karachi - Future scenarios and simulations be developed to work out the challenges and opportunities with regards for future growth scenarios in the city that would also look into the viability, nature and scope of urban densification in Karachi and Sindh.
- Initiate a participatory process of enacting a draft of an Urban Regional & Planning Act to resolve the planning overlaps and resulting constraints for sustainable development in the province.

If and when, the competent authority decides to truly address development of Karachi and Sindh in letter and spirit, taking into consideration recommendations, ground reality, environment and climate change, Shehri and all other stakeholders would be happy to sit and work together to make Karachi and the rest of province world class.

CELEBRATING THE WORK OF AMBER ALIBHAI!



An event was held at the residence of Danish Azar Zuby on Sunday, June 20 to celebrate the contributions of Amber Alibhai, General Secretary of Shehri-CBE to the organization. Members of the Managing Committee of Shehri-CBE, some senior members and staff participated in the event. Danish Azar Zuby, one of the founding member and also a member of the Managing Committee spoke on the occasion and shared his

memories of the meeting in which Shehri-CBE was founded in 1988. He even shared the attendance sheet of the meeting. He shared his experiences and lauded the efforts of Amber for playing a central role in sustaining the efforts of Shehri-CBE. Kaiser Bengali, one of the founding member shared with participants his memories of the establishment of the organization and stressed the need of citizen mobilization for ensuring transparency in

governance. On the occasion a Shield of 'Citizen Emeritus' was presented to Amber in addition to a portrait of her prepared by Danish Azar Zuby.

Amber thanked the participants for their good wishes and said that Shehri-CBE is a team effort and its successes are a result of the untiring dedication, commitment and devotion of staff and volunteers rooted in their love of Karachi and Pakistan.

WHY NOTHINGS WORKS

Danish Azar Zubay

The News - 12 April 2021



The Numbers factor

Recently saw an excellent article "Missing Threat" by Zeba Sathar in the press. This was about our Population predicament. Actually overpopulation is never seen as a 'threat' as such. How can it be regarded as a threat when it appears as adorable babies, a gift of God of inconceivable beauty? How can the miracle of birth be a threat? But it only takes a few years when these beautiful babies grow up to become an unbearable burden on the society, i.e. if we do not have matching development and opportunities for them. But the more alarming part of the article was that 'Population' was not

considered a priority in a recent high level conference on National Security Dialogue. My contention is that - can we be secure with a 'Bomb' strapped around our bodies?

The first person to use 'bomb' terminology for humans was Paul Ehrlich, a Stanford biologist, with his seminal books 'The Population Bomb' (70's) and 'The Population Explosion' (90's). Since then the issue of numbers and their welfare has triggered an interesting debate. Some feel that birth control is part of neo-liberal policies with its elitist self-interest. A decent Social

justice with planned development could actually turn numbers into potential assets for progress. The edict was that high population growth is not the Cause but a Consequence of poverty but some see this the other way around. The teeming masses see children as an investment, helping hands in younger days and caring hands in older age.

The population 'threat' scare dates back to a 19th century cleric named Thomas Malthus who prophesied that population doubles in 25 years and if it remains unchecked it will cause food shortage, mass

hunger, disease, plagues and wars. An amazing prediction that fits well with most of the under-developed world coinciding with the recent global Corona pandemic. Countries with higher Human Development Index have proved Malthusian theories wrong with dramatic decline in the fertility rate. The under developed countries continue to suffer with a burden of teeming millions because they are unable to provide matching infrastructure, development and social justice.

Clearly, in the last 70 years our leadership has miserably failed to achieve even the lowest of standards of social justice and matching development goals for a population that grows more than double in 25 years. The Spectre of poverty, disease, ignorance, crime, filth, squalor, hunger and malnutrition stalk the land, with only tiny islands of affluence. Our society has become a classic example of inequality and injustice. Politicians of every colour have had a go at our plummeting fate, but nothing seems to work. From 32 million in 1947 we almost doubled to 61.38 million, in 1972. In the next 25 years, in 1999 we reached 138.64 million, beating the Malthusian theory of doubling. One can easily guess what will happen in 2024 when the population does not even find a place in the priority list. President Ayub was the only leader who instituted a clear agenda for birth control, but with his departure a decent population program for the country just fizzled out and put

the country in crisis management mode, one after another.

The relationship between poverty and overpopulation is paradoxical but the answer to both is one i.e. investment in social objectives accompanied by systematic reduction of population by scientific methods. The population reduction can never be left out of developmental goals. The two go hand in hand for economic development. There is no dearth of population experts, we just need to appreciate the importance of birth control. Look at our planet, it took all the history to come to One billion in the 1800s, another billion was added in a century, and it took merely 30 years to add another billion. End of 20th century we scored 6 billion marks. In just two decades we are approaching 8 billion. Ask a layperson and he will spell it out; if you have prepared 10 loaves of bread while the starving mouths are 100, there are chances that things will get ugly. Uglier, if we equate this metaphor on a mega scale of a city. Add housing, energy and livelihood. There is an unprecedented migration of millions towards the cities. It is estimated that soon 60% of the world population will be urbanized. Then there are horrific problems of densification in urban centres which are already over-crowded and turning into death traps. The food and energy production for a burgeoning population has proved to be a disaster for the planet's resources and ecology.

All environmental problems of waste disposal, air and ocean pollution, deforestation, desertification, global warming and climate crises, low agricultural production are directly related to the growing numbers and an imminent global threat.

I feel that unprecedented overpopulation is a fundamental problem underlying all ills of the society, therefore I would urge the present government to re-prioritize its agenda. I feel that family planning efforts should run parallel with all programs for social-justice, health-care and education, and a solid program of birth control should become a first priority along with food-water security and climate change. It seems that all economic wizards who have had a go at our economic wellbeing are afraid to tackle the numbers. It has become a cliché to quote Bangladesh's economic prosperity in just a few decades, achieving fertility rate from 6.9 to 2.1 (global threshold), allowing them to make investments in their economy and welfare of the people! Voila. Can we really continue with a fertility rate of 3.6? One of the several reasons that China has become a wonder workshop of the world is because of strict enforcement of its 'one child policy'. Quoting examples and statistics can fill the page. But nothing works if our planning is flawed. God has been magnanimous with our country. Let's do the right thing for future generations.

SEHAT PAR AB
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Premium Cooking Oil

MEIN KHANA BANAY
TO LESS OIL MEIN MORE MILAY



The image shows a man and a woman sitting at a table, smiling and holding hands. The table is set with a variety of dishes, including a salad, a bowl of lentils, and a plate of fried food. In the foreground, a large bottle of Canolive Premium Cooking Oil is prominently displayed. The bottle is yellow with a green label that reads 'CANOLIVE Premium Cooking Oil' and 'Canola and Sunflower Oil with Olive Extract'. To the right of the bottle is a green circular diagram with the text 'OCTA FLOW' in the center. The diagram is divided into eight segments, each containing a nutrient name: VITAMIN A, VITAMIN D, VITAMIN E, OMEGA 3, CANOLA, SUNFLOWER, OLIVE EXTRACT, and VITAMIN K.

Pakistan Standards
PS: 2858 - 2012 (R)
CMPR: 2310 / 2009 (R)

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MERI SAWARI KIS KE ZIMAYDARI

A Campaign by Shehri- Citizens for a Better Environment

Hawwa Fazal



Sakina bai increases her pace, the rough road and her broken chappal hinder her speed but the sound of the bike which has been trailing her for the last ten minutes forces her to ignore the throbbing pain to keep up the haste.

She finally climbs onto the back of a Suzuki truck, but her travails don't end, she finds herself squished together with twenty other women! This is the agonizing ritual she goes through on a daily basis.

This is also the everyday story of every woman who travels on the roads of Karachi. Karachi

which ironically is - the 6th largest city in the world, has a population of more than 20 million people and is Pakistan's economic center.

Taking reference of the latest research 'Gender Mobility from Lens of Gender' done by Shehri-CBE in collaboration with FNF Pakistan, a campaign was launched.

The research identifies the problems faced by women when they step out of their house, in the metropolitan city, the severity of those issues and what could be the solution to improve the current scenario.

The campaign 'Meri Sawari Kis Ke Zimaydari' is all about women sharing 'real' experiences they have on the streets of Karachi. Most stories are about painful incidents women have faced, from being groped in the women section of the bus to being catcalled on the road and being followed by strange men.

All these women contacted during the research daily commuters, who are heading to their jobs, schools and universities.

Here are some of the documented stories.



I am a housemaid, I have to travel by the same route every day, I have to hear the catcalls like 'humein bhi lift karado' 'kidhar chali humein bhi lay jao'. I had to develop a thick skin, If I stop going to work fearing them who will feed my old parents?



I have faced instances when I was grouped unnecessarily touched when i was travelling from home to university or vice versa but I can't afford to use Uber or Careem.



The mornings are always busy, I never get a seat to sit on

Sadly, women have become immune to this harassment, they have even forgotten that they have a right to speak up about it. A common thought is 'there is no use of standing up for myself, I have to travel by

the same bus or road every day'

Following are some of the statistics that have been taken from different studies. Each of them is a testimony that there is a need to address the issue

and find solutions which can be in form policy, legislation, sensitization of the issue to the public and using technology in form of apps that help women who are travelling on the roads every day, feel safe.



Our ultimate goal with this campaign is initiate a conversation about the issue that has been long forgotten because women believe that there is no use of speaking about the problem.

We are also promoting our petition which is addressed to the stake holders and policy makers of Sindh. The petition has a set of recommendations that will help the women on streets.

Recommendations

- Set up Safe Bus-stops, with better lighting; closed-circuit television/w-fi availability - security patrols (women police be posted in shifts)
- Buses be heavily fined for

stopping at any place other than the safe bus-stop

- Generate a comprehensive Data-Base on spaces where cases have come up - stationary and mobile - known offenders to be penalized and kept in surveillance
- Develop mobile apps where geo-referenced entries can be made by women who face of any form of harassment
- Gender sensitivity topics be made essential part of school curriculum
- Women seating capacity be increased in buses and buses be retrofitted with women seating/entry/exit at the back of the bus rather

at the front and entry steps for buses be at a lower height (government acting as a regulatory authority ensures this - No route permit if all this is not ensured!)

Currently the petition has 1027 signatures and it is ongoing. New stories about women experiences are uploaded on the Shehri- CBE social media handles every day.

Indeed, the problem is grave but it can be solved if citizens from all walks of life raise their voice and create the critical threshold that forces the government to take powerful steps towards making a change.

SOCIAL SECURITY FOR ALL

Naeem Sadiq



'A' worked as a helper at a shop owned by 'B'. After seven years, he worked with 'C' for eight years in a different town. He then went on to work for 'D' for nine years and finally as a gardener for 'E' for 10. His 34 years of working at shops and homes of different employers almost always involved less than legal minimum wage, more than eight hours of work and no EOBI or Social Security.

A is now 60 years' old and can no longer perform a regular job. Despite his 34 years of working life, he is not entitled to any old-age benefit, pension or gratuity. Post retirement, he is a dead weight on his family and society.

Each day, more and more people join the ranks of those who have been "exploited for life" and "reduced to dependency" because the state did not create an old-age benefit scheme or social security for millions working in the informal sector. The current law for EOBI and Social Security, applicable only where an employer has more than five employees is grossly inadequate. It simply has no place for a self-employed individual.



Pakistan can make revolutionary improvements in the lives of its citizens if it legislates and ensures that every citizen regardless of the organisation and type of work, (a) receives minimum legal wage, (b) is registered with EOBI and, (c) registered with Social Security. It must be legally binding for anyone who employs even a single worker (such as domestic help), to meet these three conditions.

The EOBI contribution, calculated on Rs8,000 in Sindh, Rs13,000 in Punjab and Rs17,500 in K-P ought to be made consistent for workers across Pakistan. It must be repeatedly announced on TV and newspapers that anyone employing even a single individual regardless of the nature of work (domestic help, agricultural, commercial or industrial), ought to comply with legal minimum wage requirements, depositing 6% of the minimum wage towards EOBI and 6% towards Social Security. Needless to say, all transactions ought to be done through digital banking channels.

All this is possible only if the government replaces its existing cumbersome payment and money transfer systems with efficient digital financial services. Pakistan could learn from Kenya, a remarkably progressive African country, which has an extremely simple, 'Central Bank of Kenya regulated', M-Pesa money transfer scheme. This mobile phone-based system enables instantaneous payments between citizens, trades, banks

and government. While Pakistan's much delayed initiative to introduce RAAST is a welcome development, it is far behind times and needs to be greatly accelerated. After all a common citizen has no interest in a digital highway. He needs actual transports (applications) to travel.

Considering that only an estimated 10% of our total formal and informal labour force is registered with EOBI and even lesser with Social Security, one can understand the complete dysfunctionality and ineffectiveness of both organisations. They need to be resurrected, radically reformed and completely digitised. They ought to be responsible for ensuring EOBI and Social Security registration/collection for all citizens working anywhere in Pakistan, in any capacity or organisation. This is possible only if all collection records are digitised and linked to CNIC and NADRA's database.

Pakistan has failed to take adequate measures to enhance the wellbeing, prosperity and conveniences for its ordinary citizens. We need to lift our exploitative and callous knees from the necks of our poor and downtrodden so they too can breathe more freely. One of the first executive orders of the new US President was to raise the Federal Minimum Wage from \$7.25 to \$15 per hour. Can Pakistan too follow this humane precedence?

KARACHI I DREAM OF



Car Free Karachi

Abdul Aziz

My final stop on way home, from a morning ride, was Karsaz forest. Parking my bike in a bicycle stand on the sidewalk, I entered the forest and trekked upwards. Though a bit worried about leaving my bike, I realized that everyone in Karachi now either owns a bicycle or uses public transport so no need to worry about my bike's security.

I walked through the dense varieties of indigenous trees enjoying the bird chatter and wind. Atop the hill, I sat on the bench under a Neem tree and

plugging my phone to a charging dock, started to pen sketch the view. Gazing from amongst the trees, I noticed the addition of new sky hawkers and dhabas across Karsaz. Just down the road I could also see the stadium, magnificently decorated for an upcoming cultural event, happening at the end of every month.

As I sketched the Karachi skyline, I observed activities on rooftops of nearby residential blocks. People were exercising, doing yoga and watering their vegetable



plants. Finished with the sketch work, I made my way outside and a bit short of time, decided to take a metro instead of cycling back home. Booking a seat in the all-cyclists metro bogie, I sat and opened the assignment brief on my mobile phone.

Karachi A Fem-utopia

Laiba Memon

Women line a crowded bazaar selling local vegetables and handmade crafts. Elderly females walk through the aisles, controlling trade and ensuring order. Women travel with locals in crowded public



taxis enjoying social mobility. Sounds like a utopia? This is in fact a vision for own Karachi of the future. A matriarchy exists, where women are not delegitimized or reduced as objects but are respected, equal members of society. Act of loitering that can be defined as an act of doing nothing while simultaneously demanding public space is one way of restoring the public realm. Its women hanging out, drinking chai, refusing to act as they are "supposed" to, breaking away from the conformity expected of them. In 2050, I imagine

women interacting with public space through the sense of loitering where the urban infrastructure does not assume that only men have a claim to the outdoor space. When a woman wishes to feel the wind in her hair, sit on a bench in a park at night, where she just walks out of her house on a whim, without being answerable to anyone.

Women in 2050 have the right to take risks, claiming space not as "clients" seeking protection but as equal citizens. In this utopian Karachi, it isn't just about women having physical access to public space; it's also about them claiming full citizenship in the community.

A Morning Rendezvous

Fasiha Akhtar

A pebble rolls across the street as she pauses below the neem tree shade. The tree with its infamous triple trunks, embossed with the words "unity, faith and discipline" extends its shade to the adjacent busy bus stop. Symbols of Karachi's pride, appearing on



three pristine swords of ivory, are now replicated as mankind's love for nature - testament to a new Karachi.

She parks her bicycle along the stands circling the tree, meeting her friend, the hawker, that entertains kids waiting at the school bus stop. Amidst the kids is the daughter of the lady hawker that keeps stealing wistful glances towards the neighboring flower cart. Hesitant to leave her mother's side, she clutches her shirt as the hawker manages her crowded cart. The two equally elaborate carts

are the jewels dominating this comely piazza, adding to the aesthetics and rejuvenating the once unsociable neighborhood.

Crossing the sea of overly energetic kids, she makes her way towards the floral ensembles and b girl and smiles. It had become their ritual to greet one other with the same exact actions each morning, where she gets for her a bundle from her favorite flower cart just to see her enchanting grin. This scene gets played out in the piazza, whose eclectic environment is devoid of any class divide or past prejudices, symbolizing the prosperous changes of a city that once faced numerous conflicts.

The Kirthar Safari

Maha Sheikh

With my bag pack above my head, I take in the whole panorama and see in the distance the Hyderabad skyline merged with rolling hills and mud flats glistening in the morning sun. I hear cows mooing, and wind turbines making whooshing sounds. At the crack of dawn, we are woken up by the whooping hyena, the Sindh Woodpecker and vultures chirping and fluttering their wings as the cries of the hungry lion cubs echo in the horizon. We are sitting in Kirthar Wild Life Sanctuary, under the bamboo and thatch roofs of our eco-lodge, sipping a refreshing glass of lassi. These green roofs envelope

the eco-tourism village like umbrellas, powered by the nearby wind farms of Sujawal and Jhimpir. Eco-lodges demonstrate local ingenuity, growing exotic fruits that have aestheticized the barren landscape, to a lush green tropical forest.

Amidst the fresh dewy air, the smells, noises, we walk the rugged terrains, meandering along the parks unexplored trails. We photograph a large family of bathing hippos and animals such as zebra, Sindh Ibex and Gazelles. A few kilometers away,



one can also catch the famous 'palla machli', a sweet river fish indigenous to Jamshoro. The local eco village resorts built out of vernacular techniques, challenge the idea that traditional aspects of local culture are obsolete and obstacles to a progressive future.

NEWS IN BRIEF JANUARY- JUNE 2021



Update on Supreme Court Case CP 09/2010

April 08, 2021

- **Kidney Hill (CMA 714-K/2020 and CMA 424-K/2021)**

The matter came up for hearing on 8th April 2021, in which the Hon'ble Court in CMA 714-K/2020 directed the Commissioner Karachi to remove all encroachments whatsoever from the Kidney Hill park.

Senior Advocate Mr. Kamal Azfar filed the CMA 424/2021 on behalf of residents seeking restraining order against Commissioner Karachi and KMC for demolishing the gates of houses of residents adjacent to Kidney Hill Park. The Hon'ble Court allowed the CMA and issued notice to the Commissioner Karachi and Amber Alibhai of Shehri for a date during the next session.

Shehri submitted a Report No.35-K/2021 in the Supreme Court in response to notice issued by Hon'ble Court in the matter of CMA 424/2021 (Kidney Hill).

- **Hill Park (CMAs 145-K and 147-K of 2020)**
The Hon'ble Court

dismissed the Review Petition filed by the learned counsel against the removal of encroachment from Hill Park.

June 14th to June 18th 2021

During the hearing of the matter, the Supreme Court observed that illegal occupation on land could not be declared legal even if a person had occupation on land for 100 years.

- **Kidney Hill Park (Crl.O.P.8-K of 2021):** The bench directed the Commissioner Karachi to implement the Court order regarding removal of encroachments of whatsoever nature, from the Kidney Hill park and restore it to its original conditions.
- **COMM-3 (CMA 86-K/2020 and CMA No.711-K/2020).** The matter came up for hearing on 16th June 2021 at Karachi Registry. During the hearing Mrs. Amber Alibhai presented an old KDA Map of Kahkashan Scheme 5, Clifton Karachi (1972) to the Supreme Court bench.

The Hon'ble Court directed both DG KDA and Shehri to prepare a comprehensive report regarding plots in this scheme named Comm.

The Supreme Court also issued notices to the Ziauddin Hospital located in Block 6 and South City Hospital, Clifton for running their health facilities on land meant for amenity purposes.

- **Nasla Tower (Plot No.A-193, SMCHS) (CMA No.625-K/2021 576-K/2021):** The Supreme Court directed the Commissioner Karachi to demolish a 15-storey building known as "Nasla Tower" as the builder had encroached upon 400 sq.yds land meant for service road and used for constructing the high-rise. The Court further directed the builder to refund the amount to the allottees of the flats.
- **Pavilion End Club/Aladdin Park (CMA No.689-K/2021):** The Court directed the local administration to remove the Pavilion End Club and end all commercial activities on the premises of the Aladdin Amusement Park.
- **KDA Officers Club (KMC Sports Club) (Crl.M.A.229-K of 2018):** The Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the Administrator, KMC to

clear all sort of buildings and the building material from the KMC playground

situated at Kashmir Road. All construction, except swimming pool and

tennis courts, will be removed from the playground.

Activities held during January - June 2021

Tree Plantation

#	Activity	Date	Venue
1	Tree Plantation	06/02/2021	Mazar-e-Quaid
2	Tree Plantation	16/02/2021	Mazar-e-Quaid
3	Tree Plantation	29/04/2021	Bagh-e-Ibn-e-Qasim

Shehri-FNF supported activities

1. Awareness Session "Improving Gender Empowerment of religious minorities through education and capacity building, in Sindh"			
#	Date	City/Venue	Objectives
1	20/02/2021	New Revival Church, Lalabad, Ibrahim Haidri, Karachi	Education and capacity building of Minority Women on 1. Women Rights in Pakistan 2. Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act. 3. Sindh Hindu Marriage Act 4. Property and inheritance rights etc. 5. Importance of 'B' Form, Family Registration Certificate (FRC) & Marriage Registration.
2	13/03/2021	New Revival Church, Lalabad, Ibrahim Haidri, Ibrahim Goth, Karachi	
3	06/04/2021	SRO Guest House, Thatta	
4	22/05/2021	TandoAllahyar	
5	28/05/2021	Jacob Community Development Centre, Hyderabad	
6	29/05/2021	Community Centre, Village Mirpurkhas	
7	05/06/2021	Press Club, Badin	
8	12/06/2021	Beach Luxury Hotel, Karachi	
9	26/06/2021	Shanti Nagar Village, TandoAllahyar	

2. "Building Capacity of Citizen Stakeholders and Government officials on Sindh Right to Information Law"			
#	Date	City/Venue	Objectives
1	24/02/2021	Karachi	1. Understanding the "Sindh Transparency and Right to Information Act 2016" 2. Build the capacity of citizen groups to use RTI law for redressal their grievances 3. Build the capacity of Government officials on how to respond RTI Request 4. How to draft RTI Request
2	27/02/2021	Mirpurkhas	
3	19/03/2021	Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur (Govt officials)	
4	20/03/2021	Regional Office of Planning Department, Sukkur (Govt officials)	
5	03/04/2021	Indus Hotel, Hyderabad (Citizens Groups)	
6	10/04/2021	Tando Allahyar	
7	19/06/2021	Caritas Pakistan office, Hyderabad	

3. "Engagement with Legislators for Participatory Public Policy Making and Dialogue"			
#	Date	City/Venue	Objectives
1	30/03/2021	Hotel Marriott, Karachi	1. Engagement with provincial legislators to discuss challenges in policy making, and on how public policy making process can be best optimized to ensure public good.

PUBLICATIONS BRIEF

In the year 2020, Shehri-CBE brought out three (3) publications looking into issues of gender and urban design.

1. **Mobility from the Lens of Gender: Case Study Karachi**
2. **Religious Minorities and the Gendered Context in Pakistan**
3. **Cities of the Future: Learning from COVID 19 Pandemic**

OBITUARY

The Managing Committee of Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment offers deepest condolence to the family of renowned writer and Journalist Sheen Farrukh. Ms. Farrukh was passed away on 17th June 2021, she remained Editor for Shehri Newsletter (urdu) since 1994 to 2012. As a journalist she worked with a lot of heart and courage.

May God rest her Soul in Peace

Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment



OBITUARY

The Management and Members of Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment offer their condolences to the family of late Akhtar Mirza. Mr. Mirza was associated with Shehri-CBE since 1997, he was very helpful and ardent supporter of Shehri and its work. He will always be remembered for his services for Shehri.

May Allah rest his soul in peace. Ameen.

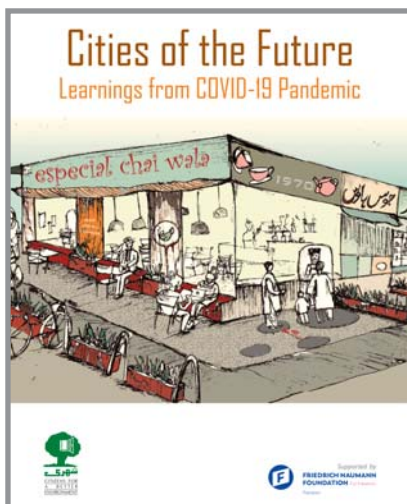
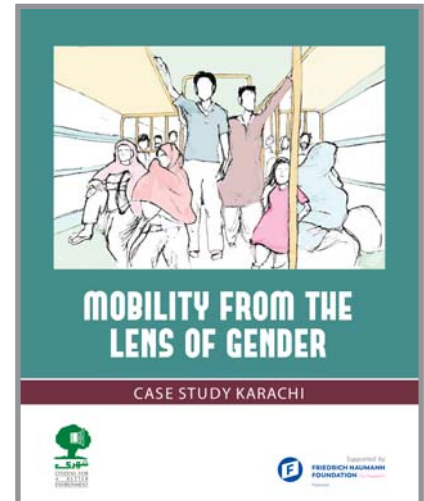
Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment



PUBLICATIONS BRIEF

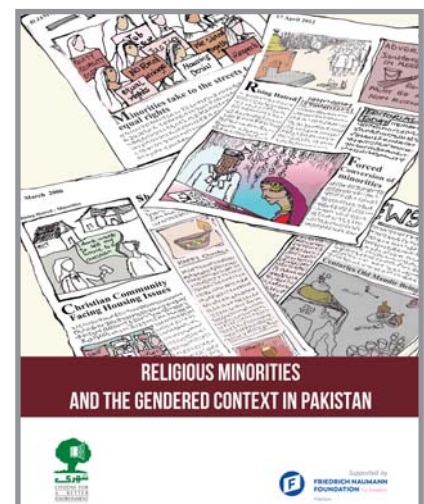


In the year 2020, Shehri-CBE brought out three (3) publications looking into issues of gender and urban design. Gender mobility was the focus of the publication - **Mobility from the Lens of Gender: Case Study Karachi** - that examined how mobility patterns and associated challenges faced by women are different to men that has resulted in gender sensitivity considerations being streamlined into overall mobility planning. Research work done on the topic in urban Pakistan was documented and primary research conducted. Analytical review of primary data was translated into a holistic set of recommendations on how gender mobility experience can be improved in Karachi city.



The publication - **Religious Minorities and the Gendered Context in Pakistan** - documented the relevant national legislative, institutional framework that looks into protecting the interest of religious minorities, particularly women, identified gaps and documented consultations held with a variety of relevant stakeholders. A Policy Paper was developed, recommending reforms.

The publication - **Cities of the Future: Learning from COVID 19 Pandemic** - documented how policies and practices related with urban design and mobility are undergoing a transformation in the wake of the pandemic and discussed whether such changes would have a long term footprint. The narratives were considered within the context of Karachi city, relevant experts consulted and recommendations made in the areas of public space design, mobility and housing on how the pandemic learning can be leveraged to plan for a more livable Karachi.





Mrs. Amra Javed (Executive Member, Shehri) sharing Shehri tree plantation drive to First Lady Mrs. Samina Alvi



"First Lady Ms. Samina Alvi planting tree at Mazar-e-Quaid on 16th February 2021



"Ms. Rukhsana Naveed, Parliamentary Secretary Climate Change (GoP), planting tree at Bagh-e-Ibn Qasim on 29th April 2021



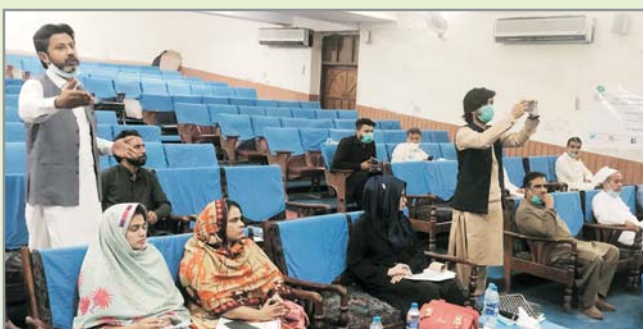
"Ms. Rukhsana Naveed, Parliamentary Secretary Climate Change (GoP), planting tree at Bagh-e-Ibn Qasim on 29th April 2021



Awareness Session "Improving Gender Empowerment of religious minorities through education and capacity building, in Sindh" held on 22/05/2021 at Tando Allahyar



Building Capacity of Citizen Stakeholders and Government Officials on Sindh Right to Information Law" held on 19th June 2021 at Hyderabad



"Building Capacity of Government officials on Sindh Right to Information Law" held on 19/03/2021 at Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur



"Building Capacity of Government officials on Sindh Right to Information Law" held on 20/03/2021 at Sukkur



"Building Capacity of Citizen stakeholder on Sindh Right to Information Law" held on 24/02/2021 at Baptist Church, Pahar Gunj, Karachi.



"Building Capacity of Citizen stakeholder on Sindh Right to Information Law" held on 03/04/2021 at Indus Hotel, Hyderabad



"Engagement with Legislators for Participatory Public Policy Making and Dialogue" held on 30-03-2021 at Marriott Hotel, Karachi



"Engagement with Legislators for Participatory Public Policy Making and Dialogue" held on 30-03-2021 at Marriott Hotel, Karachi



Awareness Session "Improving Gender Empowerment of religious minorities through education and capacity building, in Sindh" held on 20/02/2021 at New Revival Church, Lalabad, Ibrahim Haidri, Karachi



Awareness Session "Improving Gender Empowerment of religious minorities through education and capacity building, in Sindh" held on 06/04/2021 at SRO Guest House, Thatta



Awareness Session "Improving Gender Empowerment of religious minorities through education and capacity building, in Sindh" held on 05/06/2021 at Aiwan-e-Sahafat, Badin



Awareness Session "Improving Gender Empowerment of religious minorities through education and capacity building, in Sindh" held on 28/05/2021 at Jacob Development Community Centre, Hyderabad

SHEHRI - CITIZENS FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT



INTRODUCTION

Shehri- CBE is a Karachi-based voluntary advocacy group established by concerned citizens in 1988 to project their apprehensions about the deterioration of the built and natural environment.

There is a special emphasis on tackling illegal construction and zoning violations, and their related symptoms, e.g., drainage, encroachments, parking and infrastructure. Shehri monitors the regulatory bodies and government agencies and encourages civil society to do the same.

SUCCESES

Passing of Sindh Senior Citizens Welfare Bill 2014 Demolition of Glass Towers illegal encroachment on the notified road-widening of Clifton Road.

Saving of 480-acre Gutter Baghicha Park on Manghopir Road. This is the largest open recreational space in a low income congested area of Lyari-inhabited by approximately one million people.

Saving of 62-acre Kidney hill Park in Karachi Cooperative Housing Society Union inclusive of 18-acre notified KWSB installations.

Establishment of the Oversee Committee of the KBCA and a

Public Information Counter.

Halting commercialization and sale of 11 KTC and 15 SRTC bus-depot plots in Karachi and Sindh. Today these plots are to be used by the CDGK for intercity bus terminals and other related transportation activity.

Saving (Makro) webb Ground playfield in Lines Area, Karachi.

Demolition of apartment structure Costa Linina in amenity Bagh-e-Ibne-Qasim, Clifton. CDGK has now developed it as a park.

Preventing commercialization of Doongi Ground park / playfield in Lahore.

Reducing, as part of Lahore Bachhao Tehrik, the amount of damage from Canal Bank Widening Project.

Reaffirmation of seismic building code in Quetta.

Training 1600 (Approx) police officers all over Pakistan on participatory citizen-police interaction, human rights violations and police reforms.

Over the years, Shehri's expertise has been recognized by superior courts and it has been called as amicus curiae (friend of the court) in cases dealing with built environment violations.

OBJECTIVES

Establishment of an aware and pro-active civil society, good governance, transparency and rule of law.

Promotion of research, documentation, dialogue with and influence of public policies.

Setting up an effective and representative local government system.

Preparation of a representative Master Plan / Zoning plan for Karachi city and effective implementation of the same.

Observance of basic human rights in society.

HOW IS SHEHRI RUN?

A volunteer Managing Committee, duly elected by the General Body for a term of two years, thereby functioning in an open and democratic manner. Membership is open to all who subscribe to its objectives and memorandum.

SHEHRI needs Volunteers

to work in the following areas:

- Legal Affair
- Media and Outreach
- Million Trees Campaign
- Conservation and Heritage
- Fund Raising
- Gun Free Society

Name: _____
Occupation: _____
Address: _____

Contact No.: _____
E-mail: _____

JOIN SHEHRI

To Create a Better Environment

Submit A Cross Cheque of PKR 2000/= in favor of Shehri-CBE Along with 2 passport size photos to become a member

Address: 88-R, Block-2,
P.E.C.H.S., Karachi-75400.
Tel / Fax : 021-3453-0646

SHEHRI MEMBERSHIP

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2021 (Rs. 2000/=)
Join Shehri and play your role as a good citizen to make this city a clean, healthy and environmentally friendly place to live in!

HBL

Go paperless with HBL's digital solutions!

Download HBL Mobile and register now, for convenient and eco-friendly daily transactions on the go.

HBL Mobile

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Shopping



Air & Bus
Tickets



Money
Transfers



Bill
Payments



Mobile
Top-ups



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